

Wages and Hours of Labor

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STREET-RAILWAY AND MOTORBUS WORKERS

Below are given the monthly wages paid in August 1938 by the municipally owned street-railway and omnibus company operating in Helsinki.

Motormen and bus drivers:	Wages per month (markkaa)	Conductors:	Wages per month (markkaa)
Basic salary	1,900	Basic salary	1,200
After 1 year's service	2,000	After 1 year's service	1,300
After 3 years' service	2,100	After 3 years' service	1,400
After 6 years' service	2,250	After 6 years' service	1,525
After 9 years' service	2,450	After 9 years' service	1,675
		Charwomen (for 4 hours' work at night)	800

Hourly wages paid by the company to painters, carpenters, welders, joiners, switchmen, tracklayers, and other workers range from 9.00 to 12.00 markkaa.

The wages paid by the municipally owned street-railway companies in Turku and Viipuri are somewhat lower than in Helsinki.

Other bus and trucking companies.—The monthly earnings of bus drivers employed in different parts of the country vary from 1,100 to 2,000 markkaa and the weekly earnings from 300 to 500 markkaa. The conductors, usually women or young boys, are paid between 700 and 900 markkaa per month. In addition, drivers and conductors of long-distance busses usually have free meals when they are on the road.

Truck drivers are paid from 1,500 to 2,200 markkaa per month or from 400 to 600 markkaa per week. Those employed on the hourly basis get from 8.00 to 10.50 markkaa. A leading local cooperative wholesale association is now paying its truck drivers from 2,000 to 2,100 markkaa and the assistants from 1,800 to 1,900 markkaa per month.

That truck drivers in general are better paid than bus drivers is attributed to the fact that they enjoy no benefits beyond their wages and are better organized than bus drivers.

SEAMEN'S WAGES

Table 12 gives the wages of crews on Finnish engine-driven vessels engaged in overseas traffic. The wages were fixed by an agreement between the shipowners and the Seamen's Union on September 1, 1937, effective until September 1, 1938.

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